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macrophage-binding compound comprising (a) an agent which binds to an Fc receptor on macrophages at a site which is distinct from that bound by the natural ligand binding site for the receptor; and (b) an agent which kills or reduces the activity of macrophages.

REMARKS

As a preliminary matter, Applicant gratefully notes that the Amendment filed on January 2, 2001 (paper No. 8) in the parent application has been entered. Accordingly, claims 1-6 and 8-21 are pending in the instant application. In addition, Applicant gratefully acknowledges that the Examiner, in view of Applicant's previous amendments and remarks, has withdrawn the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §101 and 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, against claim 18.

Claim 1 has been amended to further distinguish the claimed invention over the prior art cited by the Examiner. In particular, claim 1 has been amended to specify that treatment by reducing the number or activity of macrophages *occurs within a selected area of tissue of a subject*. This is in contrast to, for example, occurring within the circulatory system which contains freely circulating monocytes. Support for this amendment can be found in the specification at, for example, page 37, lines 12-20. No new matter has been added to the application as a result of the amendment.

The claim amendments made herein are solely for the purpose of expediting prosecution of the present application and should in no way be construed as an acquiescence to any of the Examiner's rejections in this or in any former Office Action issued in the parent application. Applicant reserves the right to pursue the subject matter of the present claims prior to being amended herein in this application or in another subsequent application.

In view of the foregoing claim amendments and the arguments set forth below, Applicant respectfully submits that the claims are now in condition for allowance.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the claims by the amendments requested herein entitled "VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE". For the Examiner's convenience, the claims that will be pending upon entry of this amendment are also attached as Appendix A.